

## NEWS RELEASE

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## BLM evaluating oil and gas leasing proposals for Garfield, Jackson, Moffat and Rio Blanco counties

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. – Tomorrow the Bureau of Land Management will release for public review two environmental assessments evaluating potential parcels to offer in its June 12, 2014 oil and gas lease sale.

The BLM is evaluating 28 parcels totaling approximately 26,500 acres managed by the White River Field Office in Garfield, Moffat and Rio Blanco counties. Beginning tomorrow, the EA, maps, a list of proposed parcels with attached stipulations, and information about providing comments will be available at: <a href="https://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/wrfo.html">www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/wrfo.html</a>. For more information call the White River Field Office, (970) 878-3800.

The BLM Kremmling Field Office is evaluating five parcels totaling approximately 2,560 acres in Jackson County. Beginning tomorrow, the EA, maps, list of proposed parcels with stipulations, and information about how to comment will be available at: <a href="https://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/kfo.html">www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/kfo.html</a>. For more information, call the Kremmling Field Office, (970) 724-3000.

After a preliminary evaluation of the federal minerals nominated for oil and gas leasing in these areas, the BLM decided not to offer a number of parcels or portions of parcels for a variety of resource concerns, including Greater-Sage Grouse habitat. The White River Field Office first evaluated 45 parcels totaling approximately 65,160 acres for this lease sale, and Kremmling first evaluated 34 parcels totaling approximately 39,900 acres.

Written comments on these EAs must be received by Dec. 30.

For additional information on the June 12, 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale, visit: <a href="https://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM\_Programs/oilandgas/oil\_and\_gas\_lease/2014/may\_2014\_lease\_sale.html">www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM\_Programs/oilandgas/oil\_and\_gas\_lease/2014/may\_2014\_lease\_sale.html</a>.

The State of Colorado receives 49 percent of the proceeds of each lease sale. In Fiscal Year 2013, Colorado received more than \$130 million from royalties, rentals and bonus

bid payments for all federal minerals, including oil and gas. Statewide, there are more than 22,900 jobs tied to mineral and energy development on public lands.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

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